

**Hot Topic One-Pager for Oil & Gas
for Bob Sussman for the IOGCC Meeting
from Region 6**

Topic Title: Exxon Pipeline Mayflower, AR Oil Spill

Summary of Issue/Problem: Oil impacted a residential area as well as a tributary of Lake Conway. 22 homes have been evacuated since March 29th.

Background: On March 29, 2013, a 20" pipeline owned by ExxonMobil Pipeline released over 5,000 barrels of Canadian crude oil. EPA, along with other federal, state and local agencies are on location to monitor ExxonMobil Pipeline Company's work in addressing the oil spill impacts. EPA is providing the Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC) for the incident as provided for under the National Contingency Plan (NCP). EPA has deployed as many as five EPA personnel and four EPA contractor personnel at a time. EPA has also deployed a mobile command post to the incident. In addition to monitoring ExxonMobil's oil spill cleanup, EPA is conducting air monitoring in support of the incident. EPA has been coordinating response actions with local, state and other federal agencies. EPA has issued a Pollution Funding Request Authorization (PRFA) to the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFW) to support the FOSC. All EPA and USFW cost will be charged to the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund (OSLTF).

General Points:

- Over 5000 barrels of crude oil impacted a residential area and a tributary of Lake Conway.
- EPA has provided the FOSC for the incident and has been working closely with local and state officials.
- EPA is funding incident utilizing OSLTF.
- There has been local and national media coverage of incident.
- The oil discharged was produced in Canada; media and several citizen groups have made a link to the Keystone pipeline project.
- ExxonMobil has offered to buy 62 homes near the spill location. EPA is not involved in the buyout.
- EPA has issued a CWA 308 information request to Exxon to provide additional information about the oil spill. EPA has posted Exxon's response on our website.

Questions & Answers: (continue QAs on to a second page if needed)

Question: What is EPA's re-entry plan for air monitoring?

Answer: As part of the entry plan, EPA and ExxonMobil will conduct indoor air monitoring and sampling to help the Arkansas Department of Health and local officials determine if conditions allow residents to enter their homes.

Question: How will EPA determine when it is safe for residents to return home?

Answer: EPA is not responsible for this decision. State health authorities and local officials will determine when conditions are met that would allow residents to return home.

Question: Will EPA sign off on the plan for residents to return home?

Answer: EPA, as part of the Unified Command, will provide input for consideration by state health authorities and local officials in making the determination of when residents can return to their homes.

Question: How will property be restored to a pre-spill condition?

Answer: Crews are steam cleaning and pressure washing oil from property and starting to plan for the removal of contaminated areas. Cleaning efforts will continue until the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality determines the area meets residential clean up standards.

Question: Where do the odors come from? Are they dangerous?

Answer: The odors come from the oil released during the spill. Air quality monitoring is still being conducted. Air monitoring equipment is measuring the volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and is below levels of concerns.

Question: What air monitoring is being conducted by EPA? What are the constituents?

Answer: We are conducting air monitoring for VOCs and hydrogen sulfide. Continuous air quality monitoring is being conducted by both the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and ExxonMobil, and data will be provided to the Arkansas department of health.

Question: What does the air monitoring data show?

Answer: Current air quality readings are below levels likely to cause health effects with the exception of the cleanup areas where the emergency responders are directly working. Workers in those areas have air quality monitors and breathing equipment for use when necessary.

Question: How do I get a copy of the air monitoring data?

Answer: The data will be made available on the ADEQ website. We can provide a link to the website once the data is made available.

Question: Does EPA review and verify the RP air monitoring data?

Answer: EPA is conducting independent air monitoring to verify the responsible parties information. EPA and state agencies are also reviewing the responsible party data for quality assurance.

Question: How long will EPA be here?

Answer: EPA will oversee the recovery efforts until complete.

Question: How is air monitoring being conducted?

Answer: At the request of Arkansas Department Emergency Management - EPA continues to conduct 24 hour air monitoring to help state and local authorities in making public health decisions for response personnel and residents.

Question: How will the wetlands be affected?

Answer: US Fish and Wildlife is working closely with EPA on guiding recovery efforts in wetlands. Both agencies are working with Arkansas Game and Fish - who are lead department for wetlands recovery.

Question: What is the cause of spill?

Answer: The cause of the event is currently being investigated by the Department of Transportation Pipeline Management of Safety Administration.